HOLY

TABERNACLE ASSOCIATION.

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REPORT FOR THE

YEAR 1876.

CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME,

MARCH, 1877.

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The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA

Queen's University at Kingston

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CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME,

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HOLY TABERNACLE ASSOCIATION.

In beginning this Second Annual Report of our dear "Holy Tabernacle Association" we feel it to be an imperative duty to express our gratitude. Yes, deep, heartfelt gratitude; first, to God, who deigned to look with pleasure on the anxiety we felt for the neatness, the cleanliness, we dare not say, the glory of His Sacred Altars. Our uneasiness touched His Sacred Heart, and He blessed our little Association, sending us a large number of new members, consequently increasing our resources, and enabling us to extend the sphere of our beneficent charity. (1) To Him then above all, and for all, be our grateful homage. Secondly, to you dear Associates, whose indefatigable zeal, persevering charity, love for the Eucharistic God, and devotedness to all that relates to His glory have drawn down upon our work the choicest favors of heaven. It was impossible for the Divine Goodness to behold your activity, your constancy and not associate Himself to your efforts, so it is to your generous actions we owe His assistance, and consequently the wonderful success which this Report will fully prove. Thanks then to you once more, and thanks to all those who by their prayers or by their words have been the helpers of our dear Association. As we have before said, the word of God cannot be without effect, and if He has promised so great a reward to those who, for His love, give food and shelter and consolation to the poor, the houseless and the afflicted; how much greater and superabundant will be that granted to those who by their labors and their alms assist in person the Divine Mendicant of our Tabernacles! Yes, dear Associates! Jesus Himself stretches forth His hand to us saying: "I am in need, help me," then raising up towards heaven that hand which you have filled with loving gifts, He says to God: "My Father! Thy children of earth have given food and raiment to Thy Son from Heaven. Bless then Thy children of earth at the request of Thy well-beloved Son." These thoughts

(1) 99 Parish Churches and 12 Chapels in 17 different Dioceses, have, during the course of the year 1876, received assistance from the "Holy Tabernacle Association."

force us to write what is almost unnecessary, so well are we aware of your excellent dispositions; but our ardent desire to see you receive a stil more abundant share of heavenly blessings, inspires us to say: Courage dear Associates; yes, courage for your own happiness! Courage for the prosperity of our dear Association! Courage for the love of the Most Blessed Sacrament! Courage for the consolation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus! And as the Immaculate Virgin so happily said to the shepherdess of Lourdes, so we now say to you: "I promise you that God will make you happy, if not in this world, at least in the next, where alone true happiness is found.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1876.

This year, 1876, began for the Holy Tabernacle Association, by a series of favors which led us to hope for the most magnificent results. In January, several kind benefactors sent handsome New Year's gifts in the shape of silk dresses, pieces of linen and lace, and sums of money. Then, the number of our Associates and active members was considerably increased. Several of the first Catholic ladies in the city, anxious to fulfil the duty of good example imposed upon them by their position, most faithfully attended on the appointed sewing days, contributing time and labor and money. His Lordship Bishop Fabre honored one of our meetings by his presence, and warmly felicitated the Associates on their zeal and perseverance. A few weeks later, came His Lordship Bishop Healy of Portland, bringing to us gifts, and blessings, and congratutations. So many marks of interest and approbation being considered evident proofs of the importance of our work, it was thought advisable to give to its principal and most devoted co-operators, a new title and increased favors. For this purpose the Directress of the Association having consulted His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal, addressed to each of the Associates the following circular:

TO THE PIOUS AND CHARITABLE SOULS WHO ARE ANXIOUS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE "HOLY TABERNACLE ASSOCIATION."

Gentlemen and Ladies,

The great development which our "Holy Tabernacle Association" has already attained, being patronized by large numbers of the most distinguished citizens of Montreal and neighboring cities, leads us to hope that you will look with favor upon our new project, which has the special blessing and approbation of His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal. It is, to open, this year, a List of Extraordinary Benefactors of our Association whick is so dear to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This title may be acquired by any person who will agree to pay $25.00 every year for four years. In return, the Association promises to have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated for them every month, as long as the Society shall be in existence.

Having been so far, very sucessful, I am hopeful of meeting with the approbation of all, and beg to subscribe myself

With respect,

Gentlemen and Ladies,

Your very humble servant,

The Directress of the H. T. A.

The project was well received, for twelve devoted friends of the Blessed Sacrament at once sent in their first subscribtion, several others followed, and we are quite sure, that ere long, a host of others will do likewise. While our funds were being thus increased, very many active and willing hands were busy multiplying the number of sacred vestments and adding to the stores of altar linen in preparation to be distributed to poor churches. We should like to mention the names of a large number of members, whose devotedness and fidelity are beyond all praise ; but having made for ourselves a rule never to do so, we must be silent. Besides, our dearest Lord knows them, for it is our consolation to repeat their names in His presence, and to ask for them a hundred fold reward. Yes, a *hundred fold reward* will most assuredly be given them for their loving

labors of each week; for the trouble they take to collect subscriptions, to solicit alms, to enlist new members, to turn to good account so many articles, which in less skilful hands, would certainly be lost. The Immaculate Mother of God will Herself pay the wages of Her dear Son's laborers.

It is not surprising that so much activity and perseverance produced great results. The exhibition of vestments and other articles for Church use was a magnificent proof of this. This exhibition we shall now fully describe:

Several weeks previous, a notice appeared in the city catholic newspapers both French and English. The following is translated from a French paper.

Exhibition at the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame*, June 8 1876. The Annual Exhibition of Vestments, Altar linen and Sacred vessels destined by the "Holy Tabernacle Association" for the poor churches and parishes that have been recommended to it, will be held on the 8th, 9th and 10th of June, in the hall of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame*. This exhibition will be opened on Thursday the 8th instant at 3 P. M., when His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal will consecrate the Sacred vessels and bless the vestments. It will be closed on the following Saturday, at 3 P.M.

The Holy Tabernacle Association is now too well known and too highly appreciated to require any long appeal in its favor. Nevertheless, we most earnestly invite those generous souls, who are lovers of every good work, to visit this exhibition of articles for church use, where they will behold the astonishing results of the alms, the labors and the industrious and persevering economy of the devoted friends of our Lord.

It will be impossible for the Catholic visitor to behold this magnificent collection of precious articles, and not hear a powerful interior voice calling for assistance for the greater development of this splendid Association, which is specially destined to adorn the Altars of the Living God, and render them less unworthy of His Adorable Presence.

The *True Witness* of June 8th said:

EXHIBITION OF CHURCH ORNAMENTS, SACRED VESTMENTS, &C.

The annual exhibition given by the "Society of the Tabernacle" of sacred vessels, church ornaments, and sacred vestments, etc., will take place at the rooms of the Congre, gation of Notre Dame, St. Jean-Baptiste Street, Montreal-on the 8th, 9th and 10th of June, instant, commencing at 3 P.M., each day. The benediction and consecration of the sacred articles will be performed by His Lordship, the Bishop of Montreal, on the first day of the exhibition. All are invited to attend.

The articles distributed are contributed by the members of the Society, who pay an annual fee of fifty cents, and they are destined for gratuitous distribution among poor clergymen and needy parishes, where without the assistance of this society, the Divine services would be performed in a manner unworthy of the Majesty of our Lord. In looking over the names of the members of this most worthy society, we regret that there are very few of our countrymen inscribed in its ranks; on making this remark, we were told that it was not much known among the Englishspeaking Catholics of this country, we regret this, and we hope that our friends will go and see the exhibition, become members of the society, and make known to their friends its useful and eminently praiseworthy objects.

On the appointed day, a large and distinguished audience were present to witness the opening ceremonies. The *Minerve* having published a detailed account of the proceedings, we translate from that paper :—

Yesterday afternoon, the Annual Exhibition of the "Holy Tabernacle Association" was opened in the Hall of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame*, St. Jean Baptiste Street. As is well known, the object of this praiseworthy Association is to come to the assistance of poor churches and parishes, by providing them with what is indispensable for the celebration of the Divine Mysteries. On entering the large Hall, we were struck with the number and variety of articles exhibited. Some of the chasubles and sacred vessels are richly ornamented, all are of finished workmanship. It would be impossible to form an adequate idea of the im-

mense amount of labor, involved in the making of the almost endless variety of vestments and altar linen which met our view. Some were generous donations from the proprietors of our church stores, but all the others were made by the Ladies of the Association, or by the Pupils of the Congregation, in this city, and in a few of their missions.

At half past three, His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal entered the Hall. Notwithstanding his weak state of health, our kind Bishop would be present, to give still another mark of interest in an undertaking, which he had himself founded, and which is so dear to him. He was accompanied by Reverend Canons Plamondon, Dufresne, Edmond Moreau and a large number of clergymen.

Among the laity present were His Worship Mayor Hingston, Mr. Alfred Larocque, Sr., Sheriff Leblanc and Mr. Beullac.

His Lordship expressed himself highly pleased with the Exhibition. He had visited several of a like nature in Rome, and yet he had never seen so large nor so rich a collection as the present one. He specially congratulated the Ladies who had devoted themselves to supply poor churches with what is requisite for the celebration of Divine Service, exhorting them to persevere in their noble efforts, and reminding them that they were continuing the Blessed Virgin's labor of love, clothing our Divine Lord as She had done during His sojourn on earth. He assured them that by fulfilling their splendid mission, they were laying up treasures for themselves in the kingdom of God, who had promised a special recompense to those whose charity would lead them to assist their less favored brethren.

His Lordship then performed the ceremony of consecrating and blessing the Sacred articles.

A choir of young ladies, former pupils of the Congregation very effectively rendered a piece of vocal music appropriate to the occasion.

Then followed an address remarkable for beauty of style and delicacy of feeling. It was read by a former pupil, in the name of all the Members of the Association :

My Lord,

In tendering our sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon us by your Lordship's presence here to-day, we also wish to take advantage of this auspicious event to recall the humble beginnings of a work visibly blessed by Providence.

In June 1866 while the Children of Mary of the Congregation of Notre Dame were making up altar linens for poor churches, a pious priest sought to awaken renewed zeal in this time-honored custom by reminding his hearers of the destitute condition of some country churches, and the sad straits to which necessity often brought poor missionaries; this tale of woe found an echo in a devoted daughter of Mother Bourgeois; this zealous religious fully imbued with the traditional spirit of that revered Foundress whose one motto was "Charity" sought to exercise this heaven blessed virtue towards the Divine Prisoner who through boundless love for man, "on earthly shrines remains."

A plan was soon drawn up and submitted to the head of the Diocese who lent a willing hand in this labour of love; your Lordship's blessing is a forerunner of success, the clergy answered the appeal after the Diocesan retreat, the priests were registered amongst the first members, since that the good work has spread to twenty dioceses and it reckous thirteen hundred associates.

This glance at the last ten years reveals more than one vacancy among the earnest promoters of the Tabernacle Society. The valiant soul who founded it, fought unto the last the good fight of the Lord's chosen ones, her heavenly Patron was that Blessed Spirit whom the church designates "standing at the right hand of the altar of Incense," This glorious archangel will have unfolded to the Faitful Spouse the glories of that Heavenly Home where her loving children often raise their sorrowing hearts. Some months ago a worthy successor was also called to her reward. These trials may sadden us, my Lord, but they likewise strengthen the mighty bonds that bind us to the Congregation of Notre Dame. This special realm of Mary has been for many the home of their youth, and for all the guardian of our holiest traditions.

What pious thoughts crowd upon us, when after an interval of two centuries we can meet on the same spot where Jeanne Le Ber worked and prayed unceasingly for twenty years. Your Lordship knows full well how deeply rooted Mother Bourgeois' teachings are throughout this country : we, her favored children reap the golden harvest of filial gratitude; family ties are not easily sundered, so amidst the world's ways, a sacred guidance seeks to remind us of higher aims, while pious lives and religious simplicity are daily proofs that a Saintly Foundress bequeathed a still living spirit to her daughters.

We can simply hope for a continuation of these good things, so we daily pray that our Immaculate Mother, may prosper our humble efforts, that they may spread far and wide from this blessed centre the Congregation of Notre-Dame of Ville Marie : for this purpose we turn as ever to your Lordship's special patronage and claim a blessing for our numerous benefactors. The Sodalists of *Notre Dame des Victoires* have always been the most indefatigable assistants, this decade of untiring zeal deserves a grateful mention, else we would not havê singled them out.

Once more, My Lord, our heartfelt thanks are due to your Lordship, need we add that your Lordship's words of encouragement are a coveted reward. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus repay our debt of gratitude by showering upon our revered Prelate the choicest blessings.

His Lordship replied in his usual happy manner, and alluding to the wishes expressed in the address, said that he too hoped the day was not for distant, when Sister Margaret Bourgeoys, the pious Foundress of the *Congrégation de Motre-Dame*, would be venerated on our altars.

All present then repaired to the convent chapel, where His Lordship gave Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The singing by the community choir was very fine. As it would be impossible, after our short visit to the Exhibition, to give an exact account of everything it contained, and as we are most anxious to relate the wonders worked by the " Holy Tabernacle Association, " we append a complete list.

18 Candlesticks
3 Crucifixes
3 Holy Water Fonts with Sprinklers
2 Censers
9 Missals
3 Sets Altar Cards
1 Missal Stand
3 Ombrellinos
3 Ostensoriums
8 Chalices
7 Ciboriums
5 Sets of Altar Cruets
3 Oil Stocks
12 Confession Stoles
10 Reversible Stoles
21 Benediction Stoles
30 Copes
80 Chasubles
2 Dalmatics
8 Benediction Veils
25 Barettums
13 Pyx Covers
10 Boxes for Altar Breads
21 Pyx Cases for the Sick
22 Benediction Burses
12 Missal Marks
10 Cases for the Sick
24 Ribbons for Tabernacle Keys
3 Burial Stoles
10 Small Candlesicks
3 Crowns for Statues
8 Tabernacle Veils
10 Ciborium Veils
24 Amict Ribbons
6 Ostensorium Veils
18 Missal Stand Covers
2 Palls
39 Albs
36 Alb Cinctures
23 Surplices
52 Cottas
197 Amicts
312 Finger Towels
240 Purificators
151 Corporals
27 Benediction Corporals
35 Linen Palls
52 Altar Cloths
10 Communion Cloths
52 Stole Linens
11 Chrism Cloths
27 Towels

As our Associates will, no doubt, be glad to hear who were benefitted by the treasures of the Society, we now give a complete List of the Parishes, Churches and Chapels which it was our great happiness to assist during the year 1876.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

St. Théodore of Chertsey
St Antony Abbot
St. Emmelia of Energy
Montawa
St Stephen of Beauharnois
Blessed Alphonsus
St. Ambrose of Kildare
St. Calixtus
St. Patrick of Rawdon
Sisters of Providence, City
Sisters of Good Shepherd, City

Small Pox Hospital
Grey Nuns of Varennes
Grey Nuns of Longueuil
Sisters of Providence of St. Paul
St. Margaret
St. Donatus
St. Malachy
St. Damian of Brandon
Brothers of St Vinc. of Paul
Deaf and Dumb Asylum
St. Anastasia
St. Hubert
St. Basil
Chapel of Our Lady of Angels
Hochelaga
St. Lazarus
St. Telesphorus
St. Monica
St. Luke
St. Juliana
St. Sophia
St. John of Matha
St. Cosmas
St. John Chrysostom
St. Martha
Huntingdon
St Anicetus

ARCH. DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

St. Dominick
St. Placidus

DIOCESE OF THREE-RIVERS.

St. Paul of Chester
Christian Brothers of Athabaska
St. Wenceslas
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
St. Sophie of Lévrard

DIOCESE OF ST. HYACINTH.

St. Joachim of Shefford
St. Agatha of Beresford
Belœil
St. Pius
St. Damian
Knowlton

DIOCESE OF SHERBROOK

His Lordship the Bishop of Sherbrook
The Grey Nuns
Compton
Coaticook
Cookshire
St. Venantius Hereford
Sutton
Danville
Piopolis
Stratford
Stanstead
New-Port
Potton

DIOCESE OF OTTAWA

Orignal
La Passe
Lake Temiskamingue, Hudson's Bay

DIOCESE OF RIMOUSKI

St. Epiphanius
Maria
Nataskouan
St. Paul of the Croes
Bethsiamis
Magdalen River
St. Francis Xavier
St. Mathew
Our Lady of Seven Dolors (Green Island)

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTETOWN (P.E.I.)

Charlottetown
Magdalen Islands
Tignish
Summerside
Indian River

DIOCESE OF ARICHAT. C. B.

Arichat
Acadiaville
Pictou

DIOCESE OF CHATHAM

New Castle
Bathurst
Madawaska St. Basil's
St. Louis of Kent
St. Francis of Madawaska

DIOCESE OF FLORIDA.

Key West

DIOCESE OF NEWARK N. J.

Milburn

DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

St. Albans

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

Ogdensburg
Redwood

DIOCESE OF COVINGTON

Covington

APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF KANSAS

Beaver Creek

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. BONIFACE

Winnipeg
Tulalipe

Besides twelve small chapels, making a total of seventeen Dioceses and Ninety-nine Parishes.

Our gifts were not bestowed up on ungrateful hearts. We have received from a large number of Priests, our venerated and obliged recipients, letters replete with the liveliest expressions of gratitude. As they belong, by right, to our dear Associates, we shall now give a few extracts from these letters, sure that a knowledge of the pleasure afforded by their donations and labors, will increase their zeal and devotedness. It is so sweet to feel that we have done some good, and afforded some happiness to others.

Reverend Sister,

On last Wednesday I received the parcel, which the Directress of the Holy Tabernacle Association was kind enough to forward for the parish of St. ..... Our gratitude is very great, and we should like to have the opportunity of expressing it personally to all, who have had any share in this act of kindness and charity to us. The parishioners of St. ..... as well as their Parish Priest, are poor in money, but rich enough in grateful feelings to ask of God to shower down His choicest blessings on our benefactors.

I remain, &c.

Reverend Sister,

According to your desire, I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of the parcel from the "Holy Tabernacle Association," for my poor church in Key West. May our Divine Master continue to bless your noble efforts in the holy cause of providing what is necessary for the celebration of the Adorable Sacrifice of the Altar in poor churches. Hoping you will believe in the sincerity of my grateful sentiments.

I remain, &c.

Reverend Sister,

I received, last week, the articles you forwarded to me for the Church of ..... Accept my sincere thanks, and please beleive in my best wishes for the success of the "Holy Tabernacle Association."

Very truly yours.

My dear Sister,

I have just received the Set of Green Vestments which I had asked for, and which was so much needed in our poor little Mission of St. Paul's. It is almost needless to say how pleased I was, and how fervently I thanked God for inspiring you with so much generosity and devotedness in coming to our assistance.

I remain, &c.

Reverend Sister,

I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of the several articles you were kind enough to send me from the Holy Tabernacle Association on the 24th of June last. In return, please to accept my sincere thanks for yourself, and for those pious and charitable persons who are constantly engaged in what is so agreeable to God.

I have the honor to be, &c., &c.

Reverend Sister,

I received, in good order, the parcel you sent me. Be so kind as to present my thanks to the good Ladies of the *Congrégation de Notre Dame*, Montreal, who devote themselves with so much zeal to provide poor Missions with what is necessarv for Divine worship.

I am, with respect, Yours, &c.

My very dear Sister,

I am happy to acknowledge the receipt of the magnificent gift which your kind community sent to one of my poor missions. Rest assured, that the first time I shall celebrate Mass with those vestments, you and your good sisters shall have a large share in the *Memento for the Living*, in order that God may continue to provide you with means of which you make such excellent use.

I remain, &c.

Madam,

It is with deep gratitude and great happiness that I acknowledge the receipt of magnificent vestments from the Holy Tabernacle Association. In return for this favor, I

shall do my utmost to make your admirable Society better known.

Very respectfully yours.

Reverend Sister,

I received, with great pleasure, the Chasuble you sent me. It is, no doubt, blessed ; if not, please let me know before the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. I am truly grateful to the Society which is a source of so much good .....

Very truly yours,

Madam,

I beg to apologize for not having sooner acknowleged the receipt of what you were kind enough to send me for my missions of the Magdalen Islands. I thank you most sincerely, and I shall ask of God to reward your generosity. I showed all to my parishioners, who were astonished at the richness of the donation. Indeed, I was far from expecting so many things which are however all necessary. Once again, let me say how grateful I am.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Reverend Sister,

It is my duty to day, to thank you in the name of the Catholics of this place for the handsome present of vestments which we received from the Association of which you are the Directress. The value of these vestments is about one hundred and thirty dollars which is an ample proof of the excellence of the Society which you direct, and of the great assistance it renders, each year, to the poor missions of our diocese. Charitable persons should do all in their power to assist you.

Deign to accept our best wishes for the prosperity of your Association, and believe in the assurance of our lively gratitude.

Very sincerely yours.

Twenty other extracts might be given but our space will not allow us. Almost every letter of thanks contains a new request. This must encourage us to make renewed efforts.

Who will not be filled with zeal after reading the following eloquent appeal from a mother in favor of her son who is a missionary priest.

To the Lady Directress of the Holy Tabernacle Association.

Reverend Madam,

Having heard of the great advantages to be derived from becoming members of the Holy Tabernacle Association which assists poor missions, I thought you would be good. enough to accept of the following names and the enclosed contributions. The object of these Associates is to come to the assistance of Reverend ..... Missionary Priest on the Island of Anticosti and part of Labrador. You will have some idea of the poverty and extent of his missions when I tell you that they are eleven in number, and that they extend from two hundred to two hundred and forty miles on the North Shore, including St. Margaret, Moisic, Seven Islands, &c.

Of these eleven stations, only two have Chapels: Moisic and St. John, both are entirely devoid of altar linen, vestments and Sacred Vessels; in a word, of every thing necessary for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The poor Missionary must carry from place to place, the single white vestment which he possesses; and travelling there, is by no means easy, for there are neither horses, nor vehicles, not even roads. In summer, he may go in a barge or on foot by the sea shore; in winter, on snow shoes, when the snow is deep enough, or drawn in a sled by dogs, when the weather is very cold. It is most inconvenient to have any baggage. If this poor priest had a few sets of vestments, he might leave some at his principal missions, and thus travel with greater facility, but above all, be able to treat Our Lord with greater reverence. The people on the North Shore are in a state of extreme poverty. Their only resources are hunting and fishing, and for the last few years both of these have completely failed. The soil might be cultivated, but the inhabitants have not the necessary implements, nor the means to purchase them.

On the Island of Anticosti, within an extent of about three hundred miles, there are eight or ten posts to be visited by the missionary priest during the months of June, July and August. The poverty of the people here is still greater. There is no chapel at all; and, on the 4th of last November, when all communication with the island and the mainland ceased for a period of five or six months, the poor missionary was obliged to leave quite a number of families in the greatest distress, separated, as it were, from the entire world. What his feelings were cannot be described, any more than the hardships, the dangers and the privations to which he is constantly exposed. This, the most extensive mission in the Province, belongs to the diocese of Rimouski, which is the poorest of all dioceses, and one in which everything has yet to be done, without either means or help to do it. Please excuse the length of this letter. My object in giving you so many details is to excite your interest in favor of these poor, far distant missions. I have the honor of being acquainted with your Reverend Mother Assistant General whom I had the pleasure of meeting at St. Roch's Convent in last October, and to whom I made known my intention of applying to the "Holy Tabernacle Association." The Reverend Lady was kind enough to encourage me, and to promise me her assistance; so, for all reference, you will please apply to her whose name is so high a recommendation for me. The missionary for whom I am soliciting aid is my son. He could not do so himself this year, as there will be no means whatever of communication during the whole winter, and his letter would only reach you in spring when it would be too late, I thought I would apply for him, relying on the protection of the very Reverend Mother Assistant.

Believe, me, Reverend Madam,

Very respectfully yours,

To work then, once more, generous friends of Him who dwells within our Tabernacles! To work with renewed ardor! Increase your gifts! Redouble your activity! Let consolation and joy go forth from our dear Association to all those that need them; and let us strive to obtain new

members and new laborers with whom we may share the happiness, as well as the spiritual riches, of our cherished work.

We subjoin, for the information of all, the following details, which give the object, the means, and the advantages of the "Holy Tabernacle Association."

1st. Gentlemen as well as Ladies are received as members of this Association. Children also, and it will be found an effectual means of drawing down upon them the choicest blessings of Heaven.

2nd. Ticket of Admission to the Holy Tabernacle Association. Established in Canada by His Lordship the Right Reverend I. Bourget, Bishop of Montreal, under the special patronage of our Lady of Pity.

In reparation of the outrages Our Lord and Savior received during His Passion, and of those He daily receives in the Holy Sacrament of our Altars.

Annual contribution of each member, 50 cents.

1o. The special object of this Society is to assist the Churches and poor Missions, by procuring for them the linen, vestments, &c., &c., &c., according to the funds of the Society.

2o. The funds of the Society are 1o. The annual contributions of each member, 2s. 6d. 2o. Whatever resources the zeal and industry of each member may offer. 3o. General alms.

Besides these, the Society will gratefully receive any article that may be utilized aud made serviceable for Churches.

3o. The Church of Our Lady of Pity in Montreal is the centre of this Association; and to become a member of it, the name of the person admitted most be inscribed on the Registry which is kept in the Community of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame*, and, from there, receive a Ticket of Admission.

4o. To honor Our Lord's presence in the Holy Sacrament, and in remembrance of the Dolors of the Blessed Virgin, the associates will, each hour during the day, say: "Praise, Love, and Adoration be given to Jesus in the Holy Sacrament. Holy Mary Mother of sorrows, pray for us."

5o. The 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, the work room in the basement of the Chapel of Our Lady of Pity, will be open to the Lady members of the Society, who can there assemble and devote a part of their time to assist in making the vestments, &c., &c., &. To convenience a greater number who may wish to participate in this good and meritorious work, the door will remain open from 8 to 11 a. m. and from 1 to 5 p. m., for the above mentioned days.

6o. The Society will each year give a full account of its progress, the gifts received and alms distributed by it to the different Churches and Missions.

The pupils of Religious establishments can have the privilege of being members of the Asoociation, provided they, each year, collectively, send to the Society their contributions which cannot be less than $10.

There is a Mass celebrated in the Church of Our Lady of Pity, every month for the associates.

3rd. The donations made by the Association are for the Parish Churches, Chapels, &c., and not for the Parish Priests. We beg to call the attention of Parishioners to this, as a strong motive to subscribe to this good work.

4th. We particularly request all those who receive anything from the Association, to let us know of its safe arrival, as soon as convenient.

5th. The annual Exhibition takes place in the month of June. Due notice of the particular days will be given in the city newspapers.

6th. Clergymen unable to pay the full value for vestments, &c., may give according to their means, and thus help to keep up the Association.

1434 members have been enrolled in our Society. Their contributions have amounted to $2600.00, by means of which, we have been enabled to come to the assistance of those whose wants were most pressing. We have every reason to hope that our resources will continue to augment, so that we may meet the many demands coming to us from so many places. Dear Associates, let un unite our prayers and good works to obtain this most desirable end.

A new favor has just been granted to the " Holy Tabernacle Association." The following letter from His Lord-

ship Bishop de Segur will explain it. Further details may be had from the Directress of the Association.

May the heavenly graces so freely offered to us, encourage us to make greater efforts to do good.

Paris, December 21st, 1877.

"CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF ST. FRANCIS OF SALES."

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE, 11, ST. MARY'S PASSAGE, PARIS.

To His Lordship The Bishop of Montreal, (*Canada*).

My Lord.

In reply to Your Lordship's desire, as well as to that of the worthy Diocesan Director you were kind enough to give us, I hasten to inform you officially, in the name of the Central Council of the Association that your "Holy Tabernacle Association" with its Statutes now forms part of the General Association and that the Six Penny contribution is included in the twelve and a half francs paid to poor Churches.

The Associates have a right to all the Indulgences, past, present and future of St. Francis of Sales, provided they say daily, the short prayer with the invocation to the Holy Patron.

Wishing Your Lordship and his holy Diocese, all the blessings of the Divine Infant and of His Spotless Mother for the coming New-Year.

I have the honor to be, My Lord, most respectfully and affectionately, Your devoted servant,

† L. G. DE SEGUR,

Canon, Bishop of St. Denis Chapter, President General of the Association.